

REMARKS

Claims remaining in the present patent application are Claims 16, 18-20, 22, 24-28, 30-40. Claim 24 is amended herein and new claims 38-40 are added. Applicant respectfully asserts that no new material is introduced as a result of the amendments herein. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the above captioned patent application in light of the remarks presented herein.

Interview Summary

In the Examiner Interview conducted on August 9, 2007, Applicant's representative discussed the merits of the rejection for independent claim 24. In this discussion, Applicant's representative pointed out that Yang's picture layout sketches were not modifiable based on the user specified number of photos (See col. 16, lines 3-5), and that the picture preview was only a single image, not a "graphical listing of thumbnail images."

In response, the Examiner referred to column 15, lines 63-67 of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,586 to Yang et al. (hereinafter "Yang"), which states the following:

The user can select how many pictures to display on the page. The selection can either be implemented as a series of radio buttons or a drop down. *If the user has selected less than 6 pictures for printing, the non-applicable selections will be grayed out.*

(Emphasis Added)

In interpreting this excerpt of Yang, the Examiner believed that Yang disclosed an initial display of thumbnails for all possible picture layouts (i.e., layouts with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 pictures). Upon a selection of less than six pictures, certain "non-applicable selections" would then be grayed out. This function of graying out "non-applicable" selections was asserted as teaching Applicant's generating of a graphical listing of thumbnail images based on a user specified number of photos. In other words, the user's specification of a number of photos produced a new graphical listing of thumbnail images, albeit non-selectable images.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

At paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 24, 26-28, 31, and 36 as being anticipated by Yang. As noted above, the Examiner relied on the "graying out" function as teaching Applicant's generating of a graphical listing of thumbnail images based on a user

specified number of photos. Applicant submits that even if this interpretation of Yang is a valid interpretation, it does not anticipate Applicant's amended claim 24, which recites the generation of thumbnail images that represent a selectable subset of the library of layout configurations. In other words, Applicant's claimed invention produces active thumbnail elements based on a user specified number of photos, not grayed out thumbnail elements representing non-applicable items as taught by Yang.

For at least this reason, Applicant submits that Yang does not anticipate Applicant's claim 24. The rejection of claim 24 as well as its dependent claims is therefore traversed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

At paragraph 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 25, 30, 32-35, and 37 as being unpatentable over Yang in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,964,025 to Anguilo et al. (hereinafter "Anguilo"). This rejection is traversed for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 24.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections, and that they be withdrawn. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,

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